

Coal Risk Statement

We have ascertained from the Coal Authority website that our proposed development is in a Development High Risk Area. We have consulted the Coal Authority publication Risk Based Approach To Development Management - Resources For Developers.

<http://coal.decc.gov.uk/assets/coal/whatwedo/jan13-resources-for-developers-v2.pdf>

Planning applications for developments within a Development High Risk Area require a desk based Coal Mining Risk Assessment to be carried out, unless the proposal is on the Coal Authority's Exemptions List.

In section 2.4 of the above document, 'The Exemptions List' - Part B, "Nature of Development" there is an exemption for "Temporary structures with no ground works" such as "Portacabins; sheds; storage units; storage bins; decking; smoking shelters." These exemptions are justified on the basis of involving no significant ground works. The temporary low impact structures we are seeking planning permission for fall into this category, as they have no foundations and involve no ground works.

Since the mining operations on site the Ministry of Defence have used the land for off road vehicle training. They constructed a camp consisting of a large Nissen hut which was used for working on the vehicles, a smaller Nissen hut used as an office, with a substantial concrete slab located to the front and a number of outbuildings. An access track ran down to the camp. Given the heavy vehicles that would have been used in the construction and that the military then used while occupying the site it is considered that there is a very low risk of danger from our vehicle use of the existing access track and hard standing area.